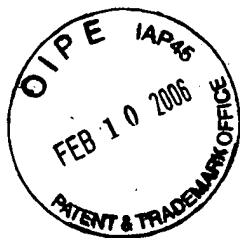


AF 2/24



RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 3700
PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 09423.0028-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Anthony R. TREMAGLIO, Jr. et al.) Group Art Unit: 3767
Application No.: 10/736,331) Examiner: Sharon KENNEDY
Filed: December 15, 2003) Confirmation No.: 3713
For: APPARATUS AND METHODS)
FOR GUIDING A NEEDLE)

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Final Office Action of December 13, 2005, the period for reply to which extends through March 13, 2006, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment sections of this paper.